WALT DISNEY'S COMICS AND STORIES

10¢

WALT DISNEY

Donald Duck and the GHOST of the GROTTO

DONALD AND THE BOYS HAVE EMBARKED ON A NEW ADVENTURE. THEY HAVE RENTED A SMALL BOAT AND ARE GATHERING SEAWEED IN THE OCEAN WATERS AROUND THE ISLANDS OF THE WEST INDIES....

THIS SEAWEED BED IS ABOUT PLAYED OUT!

YES, UNCA' DONALD! IT'S TAKEN US ALL MORNING TO GATHER HALF A BOATLOAD!

IF WE'RE GOING TO MAKE ANY MONEY AT THIS KELP-GATHERING, WE'VE GOT TO FIND RICHER BEDS!

THERE IS LOTS OF KELP IN THE CENTER OF SKULL-EYE REEF— IF WE COULD ONLY GET TO IT!

YEAH, IF! NOBODY HAS EVER FIGURED A SAFE WAY TO GET THE KELP OUT OF THAT LAGOON, BUT WE'LL HAVE ANOTHER LOOK AT THE REEF ON OUR WAY BACK TO PORT!

THAT IS IT AHEAD — A DANGEROUS PLACE TO TAKE A BOAT!

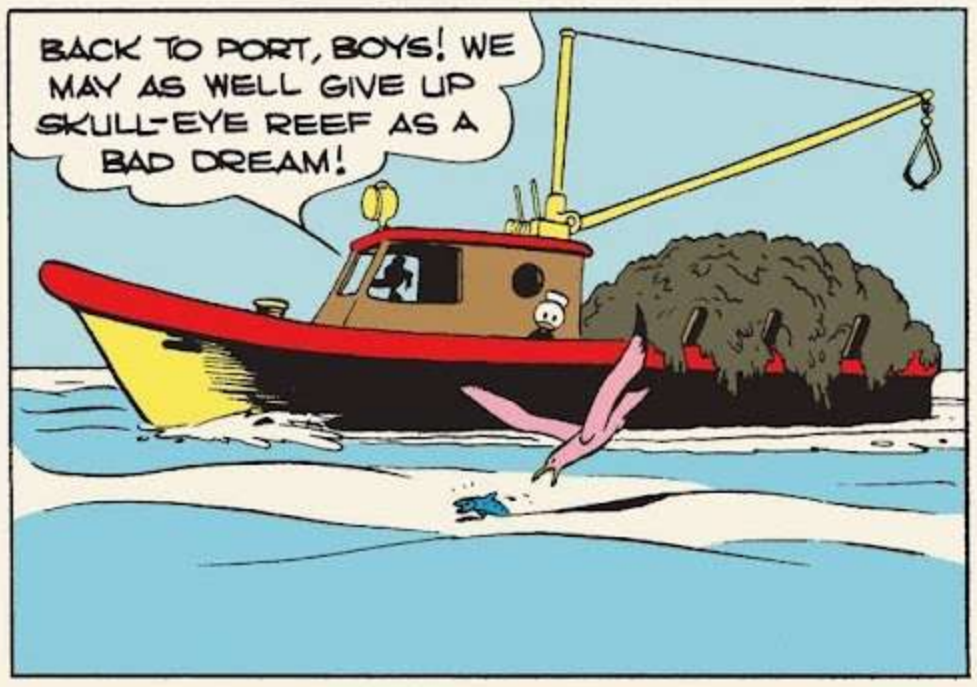
WOW! WHAT KELP! HASN'T BEEN TOUCHED SINCE EVER!

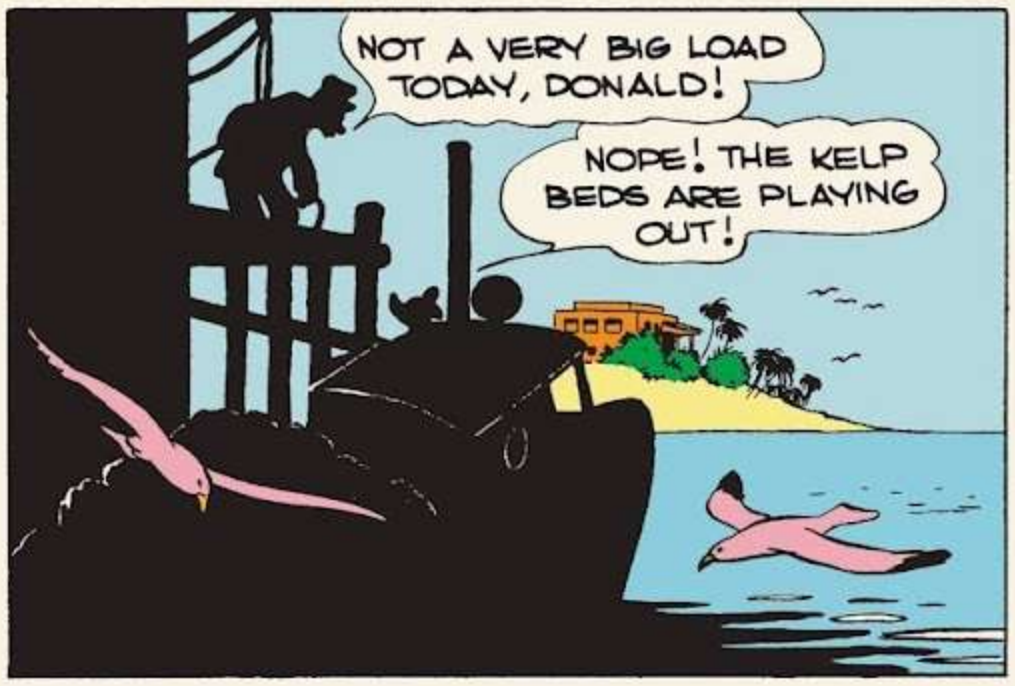
MUST BE FATHOMS DEEP!

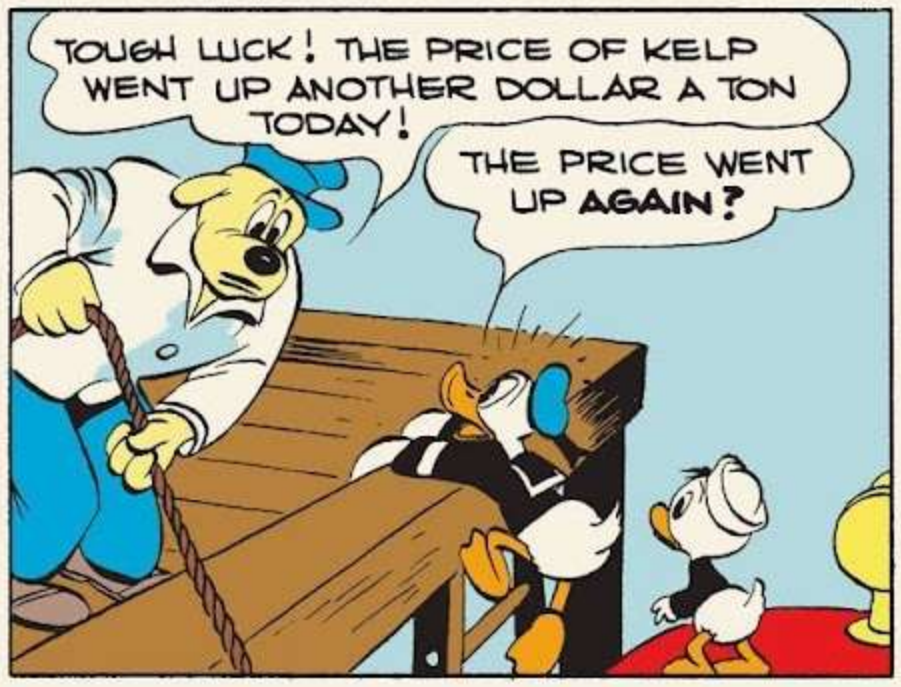
AND DOWN UNDER IT! I WONDER WHAT'S DOWN THERE!

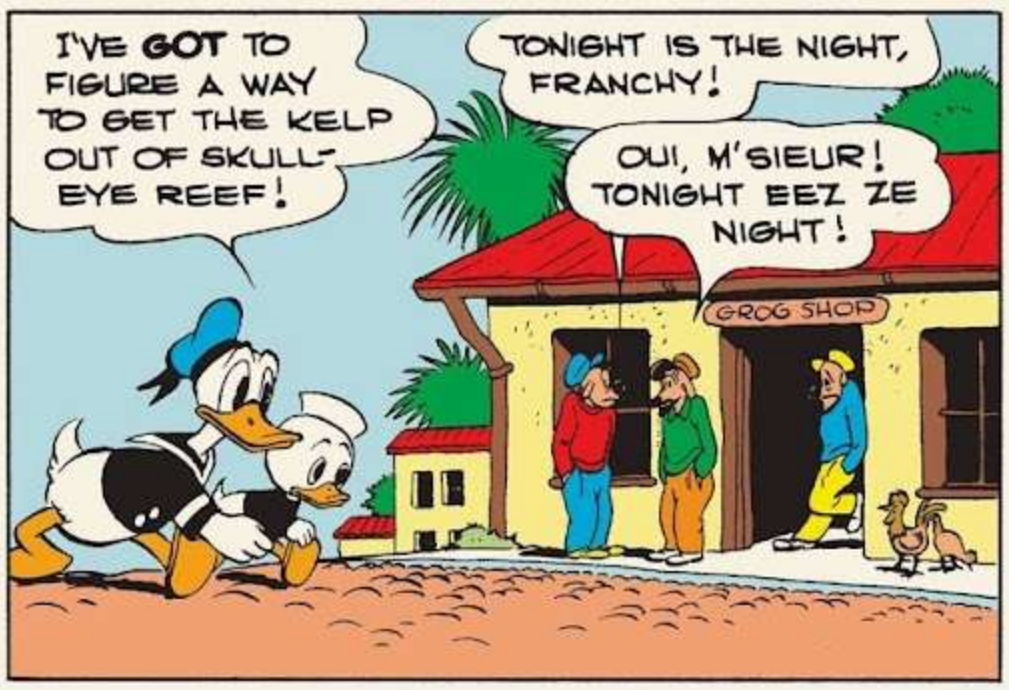
CHINA, OL' SALT!

WE COULD DYNAMITE A CHANNEL THROUGH THE CORAL, BUT THAT WOULD COST MORE THAN THE IODINE FACTORY WOULD PAY US FOR THE KELP!


BACK TO PORT, BOYS! WE MAY AS WELL GIVE UP SKULL-EYE REEF AS A BAD DREAM!


NOT A VERY BIG LOAD TODAY, DONALD!
NOPE! THE KELP BEDS ARE PLAYING OUT!


TOUGH LUCK! THE PRICE OF KELP WENT UP ANOTHER DOLLAR A TON TODAY!
THE PRICE WENT UP AGAIN?


I'VE GOT TO FIGURE A WAY TO GET THE KELP OUT OF SKULL-EYE REEF!
TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT, FRANCHY!
OUI, M'SIEUR! TONIGHT EEZ ZE NIGHT!
GROG SHOP

CAN WE HELP YOU THINK, UNCA' DONALD?
YES! BY KEEPING QUIET!
TONIGHT BANE THE NIGHT, TONY!
EET EES SO! ALAS!

KEEP YOUR TYKES LOCKED UP TONIGHT, PEDRO!
SI, SI, SENOR! I KEEP THEEM EEN SAFE PLACE!

COME ON, KIDS! I CAN THINK OF ONLY ONE WAY TO GET THAT KELP! AND THAT IS THE DANGEROUS WAY!

THEY HAVE THE BOAT UNLOADED! WE'LL GO OUT TO SKULL-EYE REEF AND WAIT FOR THE TIDE! THE REST IS UP TO LUCK!

YE'RE NOT LEAVIN' THEM KIDS **UNGUARDED** TONIGHT, ARE YE, MATEY?

WHY NOT? HAVE THEY GOT **HYDROPHOBIA**?

BUT **TONIGHT**, MATEY! TONIGHT IS **THE** NIGHT!

THE NIGHT **WHAT**?

DON'T YE KNOW? TONIGHT **SOMEBODY'S LITTLE BOY WILL BE STOLEN!**

SOMEBODY'S KID, HUH? **WHO'S** GOIN' TO STEAL HIM?

NOBODY KNOWS!

WHY WILL HE BE STOLEN?

NOBODY KNOWS!

WELL, **WHY** WILL HE BE STOLEN **TONIGHT**?

NOBODY KNOWS!

SEE, YOU'RE FULL OF HELPFUL INFORMATION!

WAIT, SENOR! YOU ARE NEW TO THEES ISLAND! YOU HAF NOT HEARD OF EETS **MEESTERY**!

EVERY **FEEFTY YEARS** ON ZE NIGHT OF ZEES DATE A LEETLE BOY HAS BEEN STOLEN—AN' NEVER SEEN AGAIN!

ZAT HAS HAPPENED **SEVEN** TIMES EEN ZE CENTURIES SINCE ZE FIRST ONE DEESAPPEARED!

IT'S TIME YOU'RE DOING SOMETHING ABOUT IT!

WE **ARE** DOING SOME-THING! **WE'RE LOCKING ALL OUR LEETLE BOYS EEN A SAFE PLACE TONIGHT!**

WELL, I WON'T HAVE TO DO THAT! NO KIDNAPER WILL LOOK FOR BOYS ON SKULL-EYE REEF!

HASN'T THERE EVER BEEN **ANY** CLUE TO **WHO** DOES THE STEALING?

WELL, YES! THERE WAS **ONE** CLUE—LEFT A LONG TIME AGO! A **FOOTPRINT!**

A FOOTPRINT OF A MAN WEARING **ARMOR!**

A MAN IN **ARMOR!** DO YOU SUPPOSE THERE ARE **KNIGHTS** IN THESE INDIES?

PHOOEY! NOBODY HAS WORN ARMOR IN THESE ISLANDS SINCE THE DAYS OF THE GALLEONS!

SURE IS A MYSTERIOUS MYSTERY, IF YOU ASK ME!

GIVES ME DUCK PIMPLES!

LET THOSE **ISLANDERS** WORRY ABOUT THEIR MYSTERY! WE'VE GOT WORRIES OF OUR OWN—GETTING THIS BOAT ONTO SKULL-EYE REEF!

UNCA' DONALD, YOU **CAN'T** RUN THIS BOAT **ONTO** THE REEF! YOU'LL WRECK IT!

PHOOEY! I'LL SET IT DOWN ON THE CORAL AS GENTLY AS A FEATHER FALLS ...IF I'M **LUCKY!**

THERE'S THE REEF NOW, BUT YOU'D HARDLY KNOW IT! IT'S ALMOST UNDER WATER AT HIGH TIDE!

SOME OF THOSE LOW PLACES ARE DEEP ENOUGH TO BACK THE BOAT INTO— **MAYBE!**

I FEEL LUCKY! WE'LL TRY **THAT** ONE!

SNAGS AHEAD – I MEAN **ASTERN!**

DROP THE ANCHOR! THERE'S A BIG WAVE COMING!

HOLD, ANCHOR, HOLD! IF IT SLIPS, WE'LL GO OVER INTO THE LAGOON!

THUD!

WELL, I SET HER ON THE REEF, DIDN'T I?

YEAH! **GENTLY** AS A FEATHER FALLS!

THAT RATTLE YOU HEAR IS MY TEETH!

NOW TO LOAD HER WITH KELP AND FLOAT HER OFF AT HIGH TIDE TOMORROW!

HEAVE HO!

AND A MERRY YO HO! ♪

FIFTEEN BARNACLES ON THE CAPTAIN'S CHEST! ♫

THE TIDE EBBS!

MUST BE HOLES UNDER THE CORAL! THE LAGOON DRAINS AS THE OUTSIDE WATER GOES DOWN!

HEY! THROW THE TONGS INTO THAT BIG PILE OF KELP! MAYBE WE CAN YANK THE WHOLE MESS ABOARD!

LOOK! THERE'S SOMETHING UNDER THERE — AND IT'S NOT **CHINA!**

IT'S PART OF A **SHIP!** A WRECK THAT WAS WASHED OVER THE REEF!

I'LL YANK MORE KELP OFF THE THING! WE'LL SEE WHAT IT IS!

LATER!

IT'S AN OLD GALLEON!

OR A BRITISH MAN O'WAR! SEE THE GUN PORTS!

GET OUR RUBBER RAFT AND SOME LINES! WE'LL GO ABOARD AND HAVE A LOOK AT IT!

NOT MUCH LEFT TO TELL ITS HISTORY!

WATCH YOUR STEP, UNCA' DONALD! THAT DECK IS ROTTEN!

SPLASH!

GRAB THIS LINE, UNCA' DONALD! WE'LL PULL YOU OUT!

SQUEECH!

HELP!

YE CATS! IS ALL THAT ONE OCTOPUS?

WELL, THAT ENDS OUR EXPLORING!

PERIOD!

WE'LL COOK UP A SNACK OF VITTLES AND CRAWL INTO OUR BUNKS!

NIGHT!

I'VE GOT A CREEPY FEELING THAT ALL IS NOT WELL!

SAME HERE!

FINDING THAT OLD SHIP, AND HEARING ABOUT THAT ARMORED MAN IS TOO MUCH MYSTERY FOR ONE DAY!

SHUT UP AND GO TO SLEEP, OR YOU'LL FIND PINK STRIPES ON YOUR BACKS!

IF YOU KIDS BELIEVE THE WILD TALE THOSE ISLAND JERKS WERE BROADCASTING, YOU'RE CRAZIER THAN THEY ARE!

AND WHILE THE WEARY KELPERS SLEEP, THE MOON RIDES ONCE MORE ABOVE THE HULK OF THE ANCIENT MAN O'WAR!

CAN THAT BE THE CABIN DOOR SWINGING OPEN ON LONG-RUSTED HINGES?

CREAK!

TONIGHT IS YE NIGHT!

THE FIRST CRACK OF DAWN!

CRACK!

ROLL OUT, SAILORMEN! WE'VE GOT TO FINISH LOADING AND FLOAT OFF WHILE THE TIDE IS HIGH!

HUEY! START THE ENGINE!

LOUIE! OIL THE WINCHES!

AYE, AYE, SIR!

AYE, AYE, SIR!

DEWEY! STAND BY THE CAPSTAN AND KEEP THE ANCHOR CHAIN STRUMMING!

DEW-EEE!

WHERE IS THAT LAZY KID? **DEW-EEEEE!**

DEWEY!

HE ISN'T ON THE BOAT **ANY PLACE,** UNCA' DONALD!

HE WOULDN'T HAVE GONE FOR A WALK, BUT I'LL LOOK FOR HIS TRACKS, TO MAKE SURE!

WELL, WHAT ARE YOU SO GOGGLE-EYED ABOUT? DO YOU SEE TRACKS?

YES — THE TRACKS OF AN **ARMORED MAN!**

GREAT FISHES! THERE MAY BE SOMETHING IN THAT STORY, AFTER ALL!

WHERE COULD THE GUY HAVE GONE TO? HIS TRACKS HAVE BEEN WASHED OUT BY THE WAVES!

HE KIDNAPED DEWEY! THAT'S SURE! AND HE MUST HAVE TAKEN HIM TO THE ISLAND! THERE'S NO SIGN OF LIFE ON THIS REEF!

UNCA' DONALD! DO YOU SUPPOSE THAT ARMORED MAN COULD HAVE COME FROM THE OLD SHIP?

IF HE HAS HIS HIDE-OUT THERE, HE MUST HAVE GILLS LIKE A FISH! THE WHOLE SHIP IS UNDER WATER!

MAYBE HE'S A GHOST!

GHOST, PHOOEY! HE **HAD** TO COME FROM THE ISLAND! WE'LL GO BACK TO PORT AND TEAR THE PLACE APART!

WE **CAN'T** GO BACK TO PORT, UNCA' DONALD!

WHADDA YA MEAN— **CAN'T**?

THERE'S A GREAT BIG HOLE IN OUR HULL THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN CUT WITH A **SWORD**!

THE GUY DIDN'T WANT US TO GET TO THE POLICE! HE FIGURED US TO FLOAT THE BOAT OFF INTO DEEP WATER AND **SINK!**

YEAH! AND **ALL** DROWN!

HE SURE TAKES NO CHANCES ON GETTING CAUGHT!

NO WONDER HE'S BEEN ABLE TO PULL THESE JOBS FOR **FOUR HUNDRED YEARS** WITHOUT A SLIP-UP!

UNCA' DONALD, YOU DON'T THINK THE **SAME** GUY PULLED **ALL** THOSE KIDNAPINGS, DO YOU?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK!

A GUY THAT RUNS AROUND IN TIN PANTS IN A HOT CLIMATE LIKE THIS IS CAPABLE OF ANYTHING!

WELL, WE CAN RADIO THE NEWS TO PORT, AND GET HELP OUT HERE! EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!

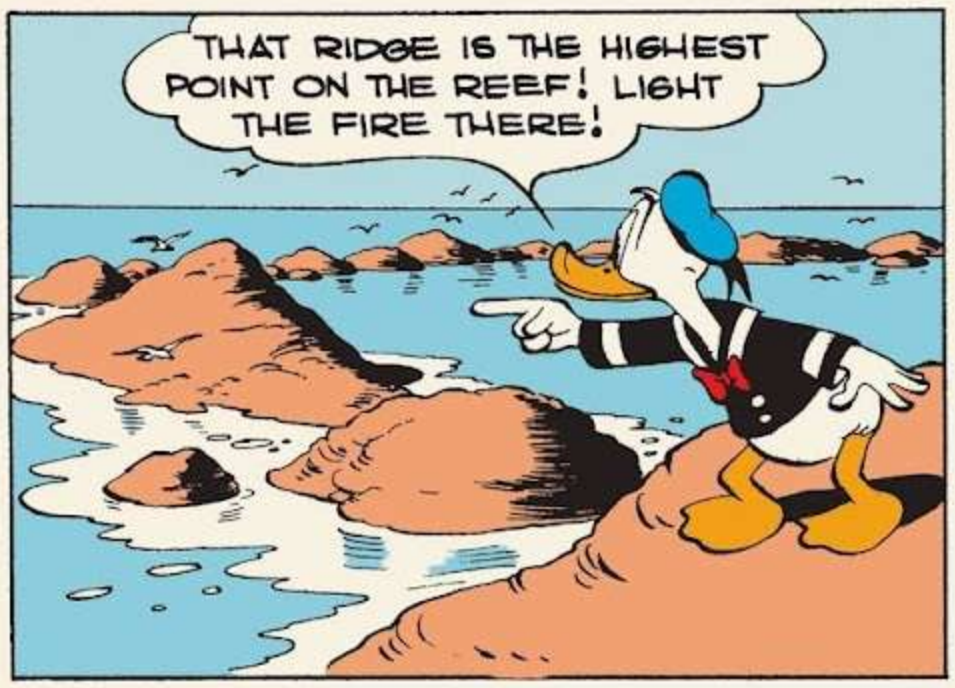
OF ALL THE DIRTY TRICKS! THAT IRON-PLATED CROOK STRIPPED THE WIRES OFF THE RADIO!

HE PROBABLY USED THEM TO TIE DEWEY! GET THE SIGNAL ROCKETS, HUEY!

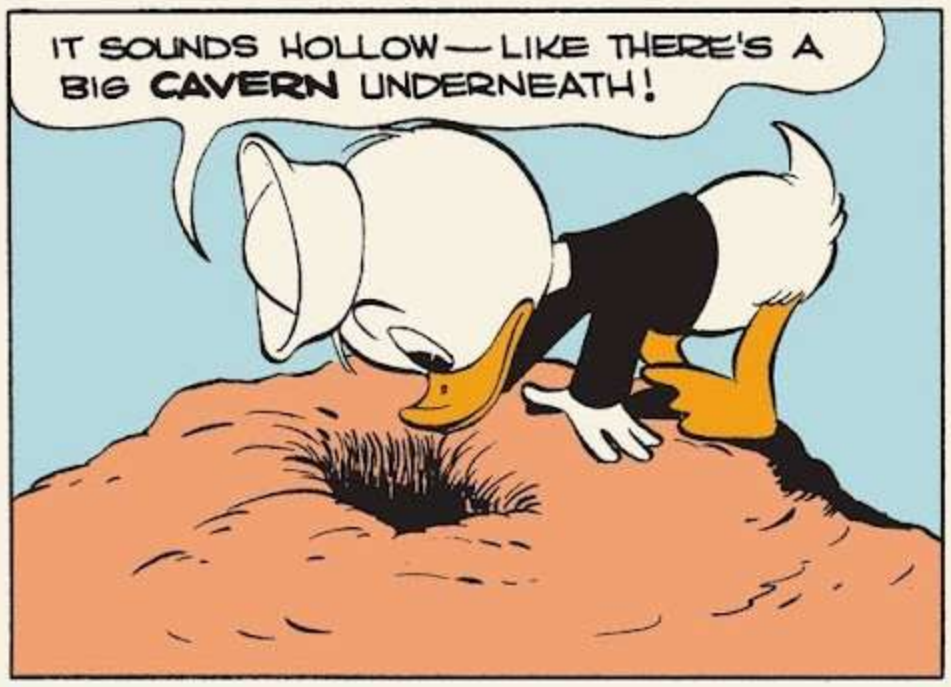
AYE, AYE, SIR!

THE ROCKETS ARE NO GOOD ANY MORE, UNCA' DONALD! THEY WERE IN THE HOLD — AND THAT'S ALL FLOODED WITH WATER!

BOY! ARE WE EVER STUCK HERE! ARE WE EVER! BUT THERE'S ONE SLIM HOPE! GET SOME OIL WASTE AND LIGHT A SIGNAL FIRE! SOME PASSING SHIP MAY SEE IT!

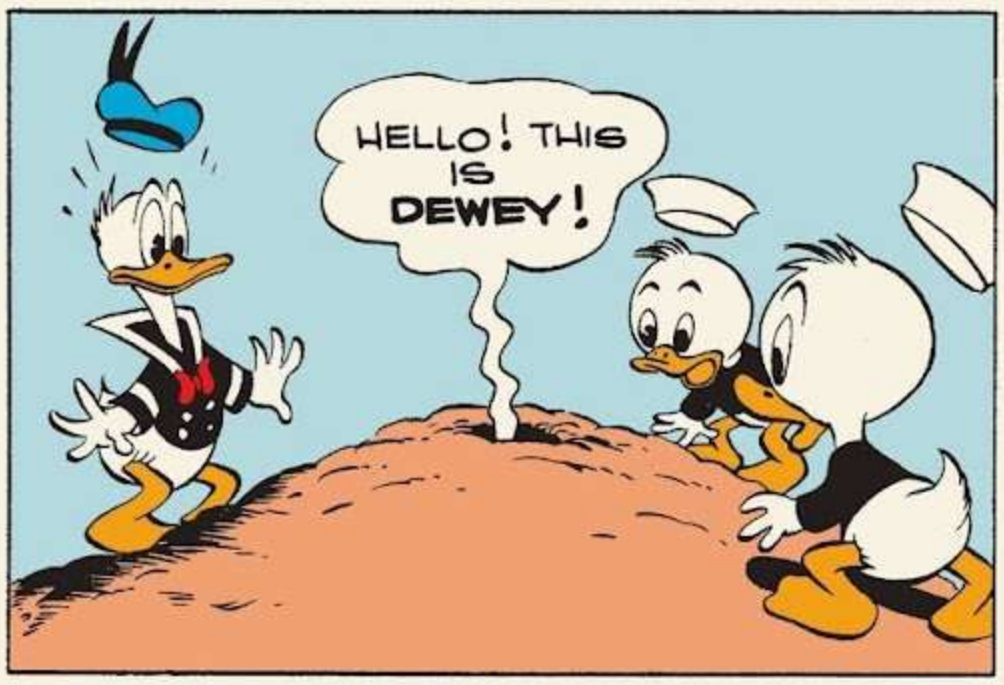

THAT RIDGE IS THE HIGHEST POINT ON THE REEF! LIGHT THE FIRE THERE!

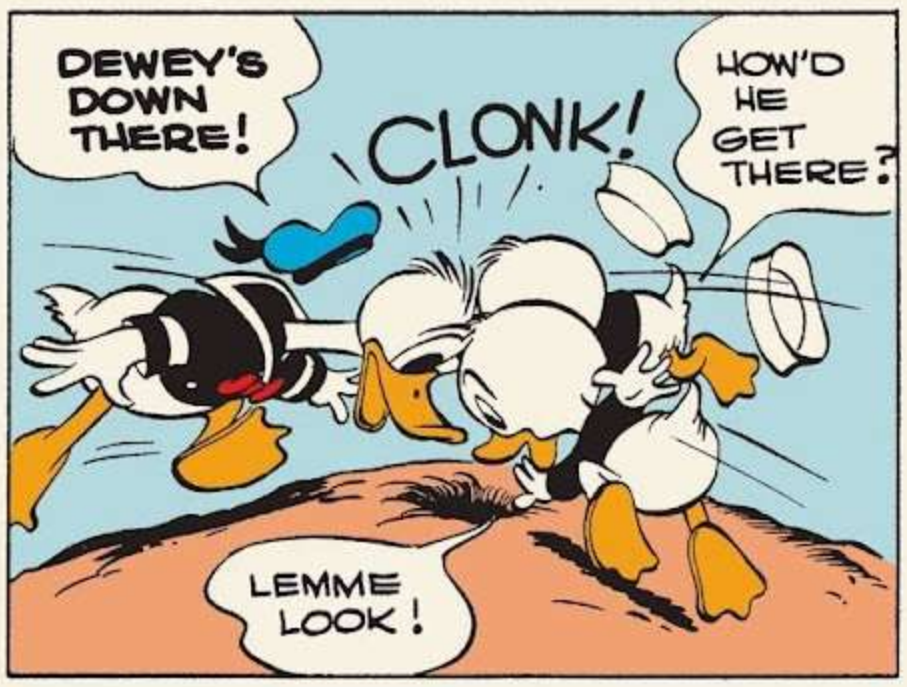
LINCA' DONALD! THERE'S A HOLE UP HERE!
COAST GUARD MAYBE HAD A FLAGPOLE THERE!


IT SOUNDS HOLLOW—LIKE THERE'S A BIG CAVERN UNDERNEATH!

A CAVERN UNDER THIS REEF WOULD JUST ABOUT TAKE THE CAKE!
I'LL YELL DOWN THE HOLE! YOU'LL HEAR IT ECHO!

HELLO! THIS IS LOUIE!


HELLO! THIS IS DEWEY!


DEWEY'S DOWN THERE!
CLONK!
HOW'D HE GET THERE?
LEMME LOOK!

THAT PUTS A WHOLE NEW FACE ON THE SITUATION! WE KNOW **WHERE** HE IS!

DEWEY, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

I'M IN — MMMF!

SOMEBODY CLAPPED A HAND OVER HIS MOUTH!

THE **ARMORED** MAN!

WE'LL BE RIGHT DOWN AND SAVE YOU, DEWEY! KEEP YOUR CHIN UP!

HOW ARE WE GONNA GET DOWN THERE, UNCA' DONALD? THAT HOLE ISN'T A SWINGING DOOR!

AND WE AREN'T GOPHERS!

THERE MUST BE AN **ENTRANCE** SOMEWHERE! SEARCH THE REEF! LOOK FOR HOLES ON EVERY POINT ABOVE THE TIDE LINE!

LATER!

THERE ISN'T ANOTHER HOLE IN THE WHOLE REEF, UNCA' DONALD!

THEN, WE'LL **MAKE** AN ENTRANCE OF **THIS** ONE!

GRAB THE TONGS, BOYS, AND HOOK 'EM INTO THE CORAL! WE'LL YANK THE WHOLE ROOF OFF THAT KIDNAPER'S FOXHOLE!

WHIRR!

AND IF YOU CAN GET THE TONGS INTO OLD TIN PANTS, WE'LL YANK **HIM** OUT OF THERE, TOO!

RIP!

THAT AFTER-NOON!

OKAY, UNCA' DONALD!

THERE'S ROOM NOW TO GET THROUGH THE HOLE!

SWELL! STAND BY TO LOWER ME DOWN!

YOU'RE NOT GOING INTO THAT CAVERN EMPTY-HANDED, ARE YOU, UNCA' DONALD?

NO! I'M TAKING THIS TWELVE-GAUGE **CAN OPENER**, SO I CAN MAKE A DENT IN THAT TIN OF MEDIEVAL SAUSAGE!

YOU'RE TAKING AN AWFUL CHANCE, UNCA' DONALD!

THERE MAY BE A WHOLE **SWARM** OF ARMORED MEN DOWN THERE!

I DON'T CARE IF THERE'S A FOUNDRY FULL OF SHERMAN TANKS — **I'M GOING DOWN!**

LOWER ME, BOYS!

HOIST ME, BOYS!

BOOM!

I GUESS OLD BOILER BREECHES ISN'T RECEIVING CALLERS TODAY!

YOU'VE LOST YOUR SHOTGUN, UNCA' DONALD!

WHAT'LL WE DO NOW?

WELL, WE'RE NOT GIVING UP! THAT'S A CINCH!

WE FORGOT TO LIGHT OUR SIGNAL FIRE! GET IT GOING!

AYE, AYE, SIR!

HEY! HE'S PUTTING OUR FIRE OUT!

SWISH!

THAT'S NOT FAIR! COME OUT OF YOUR HOLE AND FIGHT, YOU CAST-IRON GOPHER!

TAKE IT EASY, UNCA' DONALD! LISTEN TO US!

WE'VE GOT THAT GUY **BOTHERED!**

YEAH! HE'S SCARED WE'LL GET HELP OUT HERE!

SO WHAT?

DON'T YOU SEE? BEFORE HE LETS US GET A SIGNAL FIRE GOING, HE'LL COME OUT OF HIS CAVE AND TRY TO PUT IT OUT!

WE'LL BUILD THE NEXT FIRE FARTHER AWAY AND LURE HIM INTO THE OPEN!

THAT'S AN **IDEA**, KIDS! WE'LL LIGHT THE FIRE NEAR OUR BOAT, SO WE CAN USE THE TONGS ON HIM IF HE COMES CLOSE!

THE TIDE'S OUT AGAIN!

YEAH, AND THAT OLD SHIP IS SHOWING AGAIN! IT GIVES ME THE CREEPS!

NIGHT!

IT'S DARK NOW! HE'LL BE SURE TO COME OUT OF HIS HOLE!

KEEP WATCHING THE TOP OF THE REEF! THAT'S WHERE HE'LL FIRST APPEAR!

YEAH! WE'LL BE ABLE TO SEE HIM AGAINST THE GLOW OF THE WATER!

ABOARD THE OLD SHIP!

YON VARLETS BODE ILL! THEY MUST BE SLAIN, AND THEIR ACCURSED FIRE THROWN INTO YE SEA!

LINCA' DONALD, I'M **SURE** THERE'S SOMETHING MOVING ON THAT OLD SHIP! I HEARD A DOOR CREAK JUST NOW!

PROBABLY THE OCTOPUS FEELING AROUND!

THE STERN OF THE OLD SHIP SWINGS OPEN!

WITH MY TRUSTY BLADE I MUST SALLY FORTH!

BONNIE QUEEN BESS WILL KNIGHT ME FOR THIS NIGHT'S WORK!

DON'T YOU THINK ONE OF US SHOULD WATCH THE REEF **BEHIND** US?

NO! HE'LL COME FROM **THAT** SIDE OF THE FIRE!

WE'LL SEE HIM BEFORE HE SEES US! DON'T WORRY!

I'M GETTING HUNGRY! HAND ME ONE OF THOSE TOMATOES FROM OUR LUNCH BASKET!

PHOOEY! THAT ONE WAS OVERRIPE!

ODDS BODKINS!

SPLOK!

THE ARMORED MAN!

A RASH ON YE, VARLETS!

SCATTER, KIDS! HIDE IN THE KELP!

SLASH!

THEY HAVE ESCAPED MY BLADE! AN THOUSAND PLAGUES BESET THEM!

HOWBEIT, THEIR ACCURSED FIRE SHALL NOT BURN THIS NIGHT!

HE KICKED OUR FIRE INTO THE SEA AND DISAPPEARED!

HE'S AROUND SOME PLACE LOOKING FOR US!

I DON'T SEE HIM NEAR THE BOAT! LET'S SNEAK BACK AND SNAP THE SEARCHLIGHT ON!

YOU WORK THE LIGHT, LOUIE, AND I'LL STAND BY TO SWING THE TONGS ON HIM THE INSTANT WE SPOT HIM!

HE'S GONE! HE'S NOT ON THE REEF **ANY PLACE!**

WONDER WHY HE WENT BACK TO HIS HOLE BEFORE HE'D HUNTED US DOWN?

HE WAS IN AN AWFUL HURRY FOR SOME REASON!

LISTEN! THERE'S THAT CREAKIN' SOUND AGAIN! IT COMES FROM THE OLD SHIP!

TURN THE LIGHT THAT WAY! WE'LL SEE WHAT'S MAKIN' OVER THERE!

THE ARMORED MAN IS GOING INTO A HOLE IN THE STERN!

I'LL BE DOGGONED! **THAT'S** WHERE THE CAVE ENTRANCE IS! UNDER THAT OLD SHIP!

SNAP!

BUT, UNCA' DONALD! HOW CAN HE GO IN AND OUT THROUGH THE SHIP? WHY DOESN'T THE OCTOPUS EAT HIM?

WELL, I SUPPOSE THAT EVEN AN OCTOPUS KNOWS WHAT IT CAN **DIGEST!**

ANYWAY, WE KNOW WHY THE GUY SCOOTED BACK TO HIS CAVE SO FAST! HE HAD TO GET THROUGH THE ENTRANCE BEFORE THE TIDE COVERED IT!

YEAH! SINCE IT'S **UNDER** THE OLD SHIP, IT MUST BE UNDER WATER MOST OF THE TIME!

YOU SURE MADE YOURSELF A MESS OF TROUBLE WHEN YOU KIDNAPED ME, HUH, JINGLE JOINTS?

VERILY, THEE SAYETH A BOOKFUL!

LIGHT ANOTHER SIGNAL FIRE! WE'LL WAIT FOR THE NEXT LOW TIDE, AND, IF HELP HASN'T COME, WE'LL STORM THAT GUY'S FRONT DOOR WITH EVERYTHING WE'VE GOT!

AND IN THE MEANTIME WE'VE GOT TO THINK OF A WAY TO GET PAST THAT OCTOPUS!

OR GET RID OF HIM ALTOGETHER!

LOW TIDE NEXT DAY!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT CHUNK OF MEAT, HUEY?

I'M ROLLING IT FULL OF **CHILI PEPPER!** I'VE FIGURED A WAY TO GET RID OF THE OCTOPUS!

AFTER HE SWALLOWS THIS HE'LL BE TOO BUSY HOLDING HIS STOMACH TO MAKE ANY PASSES AT US!

SOUNDS LIKE A CORNY IDEA, BUT I'LL SWING THE MEAT OVER WITH THE TONGS AND DROP IT DOWN THE HATCH!

SWISH

SMACK!
CHOMP!
CHOMP!

HE'S EATING IT, UNCA' DONALD! HEAR HIM?

GULP!

UH OH! I MUSTA USED A SPRINKLE TOO MUCH PEPPER!

HE'S GONE CRAZY!

GONE — **PERIOD!**

WONDER WHAT HE'D GIVE FOR A TON OF ICE CREAM!

WE'RE RID OF THE OLD SHIP AND THE OCTOPUS, TOO! WHAT A BREAK!

NOW WE CAN SEE THE CAVE ENTRANCE!

IT'S A HIGH POINT OF CORAL, AND THERE'S A WATERTIGHT LID ON IT!

MAYBE LOCKED FROM BELOW!

IT WON'T BE HARD TO OPEN WITH THE TONGS! BUT THEN **WHAT?**

I HAVE A **PLAN!** ALL I NEED IS A SQUIRT GUN AND A COUPLE OF MICE!

MICE!

YES! GO SEE IF THERE ARE ANY IN THE TRAPS WE HAVE SET IN THE GALLEY!

THERE WAS ONLY **ONE,** UNCA' DONALD!

GRR!

HE'LL DO! I LIKE THE GLINT IN HIS EYES!

NOW FILL THIS SQUIRT GUN WITH ROACH POWDER, AND I'LL BE OFF TO THE WARS!

SNARL!

GOING TO BATTLE AN ARMORED MAN WITH A SQUIRT GUN AND A MOUSE! DO YOU SUPPOSE UNCA' DONALD'S IN HIS RIGHT MIND?

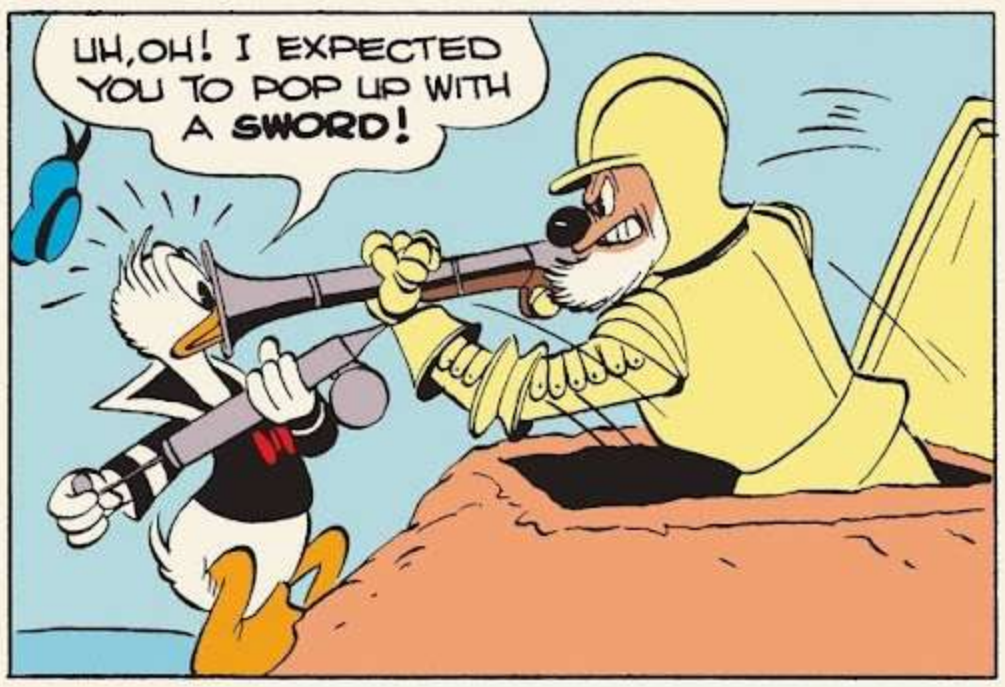
I HOPE NOT! HIS SENSIBLE IDEAS **NEVER** WORK!

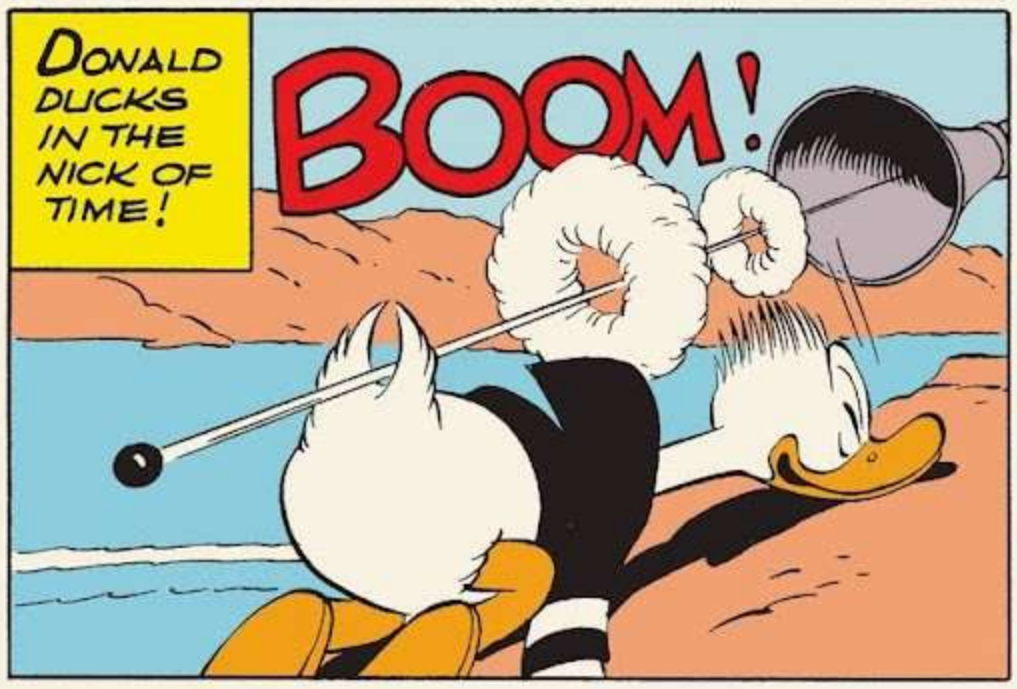
GRR!

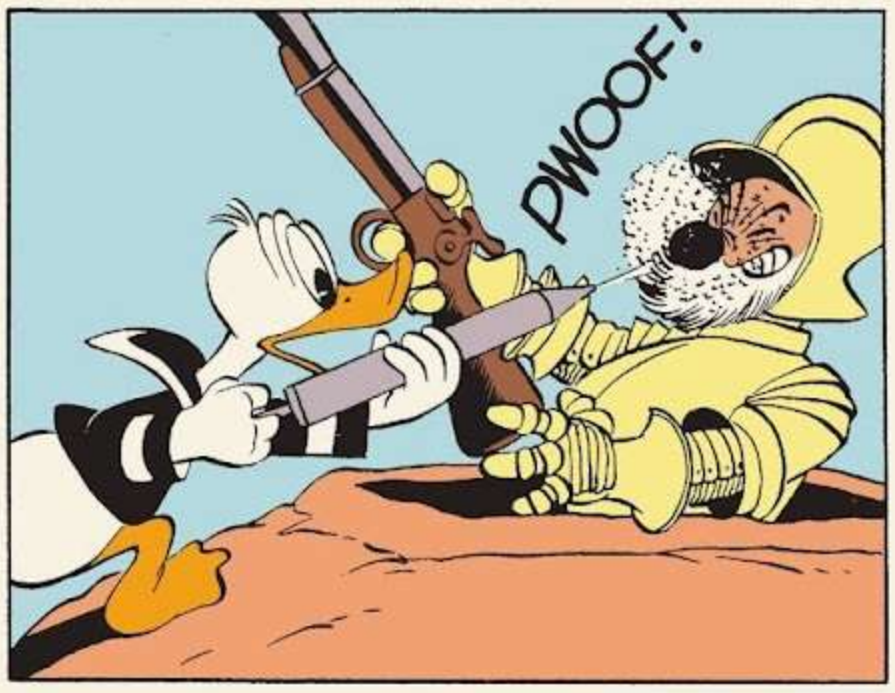
OKAY, BOYS! SWING THE TONGS OVER HERE!

WHEN I GIVE THE SIGNAL, HEAVE HO!

READY—GO!


UH,OH! I EXPECTED YOU TO POP UP WITH A SWORD!


DONALD DUCKS IN THE NICK OF TIME!
BOOM!


PWOOF!

BONK!
CLANK!
CLATTER!
CRASH

COME ON, MONT-MORENCY, WE'RE GOIN' DOWN!
SNARL!

MY EYES! MY EYES! WHAT MANNER OF BRIMSTONE DOTH THAT STRANGE WEAPON SHOOT?

IN YOU GO, MONTMORENCY! IT'S **YOUR** JOB TO GET OUT!

GRR!

YEEOWCH! I'M **ASSAILED** FROM ALL QUARTERS!

A **DEMON** IS LOOSE IN MY ARMOR!

BOING!

I CAN'T STAND IT!

CLANG! CLANK!

TAKE IT OFF! TAKE IT OFF! TAKE IT OFF!

THAT'S BETTER!

CLANK! BONG!

NOW WE FACE EACH OTHER ON **EVEN** TERMS, SIR BOILER SHIRT!

SNARL!

COUNT **US** IN, UNCA' DONALD!

WE CAME DOWN THE OTHER ENTRANCE AND RESCUED DEWEY!

HERE I AM! YIPPEE!

I **SURRENDER!** WHAT WILL MY LORD, SIR FRANCIS DRAKE, THINK OF ME?

I HAVE **FAILED** IN MY TRUST! YE GOLD OF HER GRACIOUS MAJESTY WAS NOT SAFE IN MY KEEPING!

GOLD?

PILLAGE, AS THEE MUST KNOW, FROM AN DOZEN GALLEONS OF OUR SPANISH ENEMIES!

WOW! THE PLOT THICKENS! WHAT'S THE LOWDOWN ON ALL THIS—I MEAN, WHAT IS **YE** STORY?

I SEE NO HARM IN ITS TELLING, LADS! MY LORD, SIR FRANCIS, WILL HAVE ME HANGED, ANYWAY!

HAVE YOU HANGED?

ODDS BODKINS! THIS GUY THINKS SIR FRANCIS DRAKE IS **STILL ALIVE!**

IT IS A STRANGE STORY THEY WRING FROM THE MYSTERIOUS OLD MAN!

LONG AGO, YE OLD SHIP UP YONDER WAS BOUND FOR ENGLAND, BEARING THIS GOLD TO YE COFFERS OF GOOD QUEEN BESS—

AND THE SHIP WAS WASHED OVER THIS REEF IN A GREAT STORM, I BET!

AYE, LAD! AND THERE WAS BUT **ONE** SURVIVOR!

YOU?

NO! YE **CAPTAIN**! HE, IN WHOSE TRUST WAS YE KEEPING OF YE TREASURE!

THANKS! NOW I CAN START BELIEVING YE CALENDAR AGAIN!

AND THAT HE SAVED YE GOLD WAS DUE TO A STROKE OF GREAT FORTUNE!

WHEN YE SHIP CRASHED OVER YE REEF IT BURST YON HOLE IN YE ROOF OF THIS GREAT GROTTO!

AND HE LUGGED THE STUFF DOWN HERE?

AYE! AND SUCH STORES AS WOULD SERVE HIM UNTIL YE COMING OF SIR FRANCIS! HE KNEW NOT HOW **LONG** — HOW **VERY** LONG THAT WOULD BE!

THE YEARS SPED, AND MY CAPTAIN GREW **OLD**! LEST HE DIE AND LEAVE THE GOLD UNTENDED, HE TOOK HIS SMALL BOAT ONE NIGHT AND SALLIED FORTH!

FROM YE ISLAND OFF YONDER HE STOLE A SMALL BOY TO BE GUARDIAN OF YE GOLD AFTER HIS PASSING!

YE MYSTERY IS UNRAVELING! GO ON!

HE WAS REARED TO THINK AS YE CAPTAIN THOUGHT, AND TO GUARD YE GOLD WITH HIS LIFE! BUT HE, TOO, GREW **OLD**!

AND HE, TOO, STOLE A BOY! THE SECRET OF THOSE KIDNAPINGS IS OUT!

ON EACH PASSING OF YE HALF CENTURY, YE GUARD HAS BEEN RENEWED!

THEN IT CAME **YOUR** TURN TO PULL THE JOB!

AND I **FAILED**! MY LORD, SIR FRANCIS DRAKE, WILL HAVE ME **BEHEADED**!

HMM!

HOW DO YOU KNOW **I'M** NOT SIR FRANCIS DRAKE, COME TO CLAIM YE QUEEN'S LONG-LOST VALUABLES?

I **KNOW**!

IN THIS OLD BOOK IS A **PICTURE** OF SIR FRANCIS— AND **YE BE NOT HE**!..NYAAH!

NO SOAP, UNCA' DONALD! YOU'LL NOT GET THE GOLD WITH A SOUR GAG LIKE THAT ONE!

GRR!

*NEXT DAY THE SIGNAL FIRE BRINGS RESCUE— AND **FAME**! FOR ON THE ISLAND THE DUCKS ARE **HEROES**, THAT IS!*

HERE IS THE KEY TO THE CITY! ANY FAVOR YOU ASK WILL BE GRANTED!

THEN, HOW ABOUT **ME** GETTING THAT GOLD WE FOUND IN THE CAVE?

SORRY, MISTER DUCK, BUT THE LAW SAYS THAT GOLD BELONGS TO THE MAN THAT WAS GUARDING IT!

MAYOR

A RASH ON YE WHOLE BUSINESS!

*AND THE ARMORED MAN— HOW IS **HE** TAKING THIS SUDDEN TURN OF EVENTS?*

ANOTHER OF YE HAMBURGERS, SCULLERY KNAVE! THEY TASTE MIGHTYE GOODE AFTER AN HALF CENTURY OF YE **FISH**!

TONY'S BURGER PALACE

YE END

WALT DISNEY presents

DONALD DUCK

YOU'RE **HIRED**, MR. DUCK! I'M SURE YOU'LL MAKE A FINE **BILL COLLECTOR**!

AJAX COLLECTION AGENCY

HERE ARE SOME CASES FOR YOU TO START ON! REMEMBER, YOU GET **TEN CENTS** OUT OF EACH **DOLLAR** YOU COLLECT!

HI DE HO!

I'LL GET THE KIDS TO HELP ME, AND, OUT OF EVERY **TEN DOLLARS** I MAKE, I'LL GIVE THEM A **DIME**!

COME ON, BOYS! WE'VE GOT A JOB! I'M GOING TO GET **RICH**! I MEAN, **WE** ARE!

WHAT **KIND** OF A JOB, UNCA' DONALD?

I'M A **BILL COLLECTOR**, AND **YOU'RE** MY **HELPERS**!

COUNT US OUT!

BILL COLLECTORS **DIE YOUNG**!

THEY'RE NOTHING BUT **BULLDOG BAIT**!

I SAID WE'RE GOIN' OUT AND COLLECT BILLS!...GIDDY AP!

HERE'S OUR FIRST VICTIM! **SCARPUSS McKNUCKS!** OWES FIVE DOLLARS FOR A BLACKJACK HE BOUGHT IN 1932!

IKE'S FLOP HOUSE

ROOMS 50¢

YOU GO DEMAND THE MONEY, UNCA' DONALD!

WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK

WITH AN **AMBULANCE!**

STAY HERE! I MAY NEED A BATTERING RAM OR A CROWBAR! BE READY FOR SERVICE!

THE WAY TO DEAL WITH TOUGH GUYS IS TO BE **JUST** AS TOUGH AS **THEY** ARE!

COPS

DO NOT DISTURB BODIES FOUND ON STAIRS! MGR.

SCARPUSS McKNUCKS?

SHUAH! WODDA YA WANT, PUNK?

I WANT DE FIN YOUSE OWES FER DIS BLACKJACK! ...CATCH?

WELL, I'LL BE A DOITY SO-AND-SO! I THOUGHT ME LAWYER PAID DAT BILL LONG BEFORE I WENT UP DE RIVER LAST TIME! TANKS FER CALLIN', SPORT!

$ V $

NOTHIN' TO IT, BOYS! NOTHIN' TO IT! THIS JOB IS A CAKEWALK!

AS LONG AS THESE COLLECTIONS ARE SO **EASY** TO MAKE, WHY SHOULDN'T I LET THE **KIDS** MAKE THEM?

GOOD IDEA!

HERE, URCHINS! YOU'RE ELECTED! WANGLE THE REST OF THESE BILLS AND YOU CAN KEEP **TEN CENTS** OUT OF EVERY **TEN DOLLARS** YOU COLLECT!

I'M GOING HOME AND READ COMIC BOOKS! TA, TA, BOYS!

WELL, IF THIS ISN'T A FINE KETTLE OF SUCCOTASH!

WHO **ASKED** FOR THIS COLLECTOR'S JOB, IN THE FIRST PLACE?

WE DIDN'T, BUT WE'RE **STUCK** WITH IT!

WHAT'S THE NEXT BILL IN THE FILE?

THREE DOLLARS DUE FROM **BASSOFOGLIO, THE HUMAN BAT!**

BILL DUE

THE HUMAN BAT?... HE'S REHEARSING ON THE AERIAL TRAPEZE IN THE MAIN TENT!

AHOY, MR. BAT! WE'RE BILL COLLECTORS AFTER THE THREE DOLLARS YOU OWE!

HAW! IF YOU **WANT** IT, YOU'LL HAVE TO COME AND **GET** IT!

AS SOON AS **WE** TAKE OVER THIS COLLECTING JOB, THE VICTIMS GET **TOUGH!**

WE HAVE TO CATCH HUMAN **BATS!**

BREAK OUR NECKS FOR THREE CENTS COMMISSION!

YEAH, AND GET OUR NECKS BROKEN AGAIN IF WE **DON'T** COLLECT THE BILLS! SO...! **ALLEY OOP!**

THE WAY TO CATCH BATS IS TO DRIVE 'EM BATTY! YOU ROLL UP HIS **SAFETY NET**, DEWEY, WHILE I SHINNY UP THIS OTHER POLE!

WELL, I'M UP HERE! NOW ARE YOU GOING TO PAY UP?

ME PAY A BILL? HAW! HAW! YOU'VE GOT TO **CATCH** ME FIRST!

I'LL SWING TO THE OTHER PLATFORM AND BE OFF! TA! TA!

AND **DOUBLE** TA! TA!

AND DON'T TRY TO **DROP** OUT OF OUR LITTLE GAME, BATTY BOY! YOUR SAFETY NET AIN'T DOWN HERE ANY MORE!

OKAY! OKAY! **YOU WIN!** THE MONEY IS IN MY LOCKER, THERE BY THE POST!

TWO DOLLARS.... THREE DOLLARS—

ALL RIGHT! HERE'S YOUR RECEIPT!..... HUEY, SWING THAT BAR BACK TO HIM, SO HE CAN GET DOWN!

TOO BAD WE HAD TO SCARE THE DYE OUT OF THE BAT'S WIG!

BUT WE'RE NOT IN THIS BUSINESS FOR **FUN!**

OPEN THE BRIEF CASE, DEWEY!

LET'S SEE WHO'S OUR **NEXT** VICTIM!

..TWO...THREE... HERE IT IS! — **DONALD DUCK!**

UNCA' DONALD, HIMSELF!

BILL DUE Donald Duck

HE OWES $2.49 FOR A BOOK

CALLED: "**VALUE OF *BEING HONEST***"!

"UNPAID SINCE 1940!"

UNCA' DONALD, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE CALLERS!

THIS JOB IS GETTING **INTERESTING!**

YIPPEE!

I HOPE THE KIDS DON'T COLLECT THOSE BILLS TOO SOON! I'D HATE TO BE DISTURBED!

THANK GOODNESS! THERE'RE NO BILL COLLECTORS KNOCKIN' AT **MY** DOOR!

CROCKO Comics

RING!

WHO **IS** IT, AND WHAT DO YOU **WANT**?

WE'RE **BILL COLLECTORS!**

ARE YOU TRYIN' TO BE FUNNY?

WE'RE AFTER THE $2.49 YOU OWE FOR A BOOK ON THE VALUE OF HONESTY!

HERE'S THE BILL!

GREAT HOPPIN' TURKEY BUZZARDS! I THOUGHT THE BOOK STORE HAD **FORGOTTEN** ABOUT **THAT**... THAT TRIFLING SUM!

ARE YOU GOING TO PAY UP?

I DIDN'T FIND TIME TO READ THE BOOK—COUGH! COUGH!

ARE YOU GOING TO COUGH UP THIS $2.49?

ER—I—UH-GAVE THE BOOK TO COUSIN MEHITABEL MUDHEN!

NEVER MIND THE SONG AND DANCE!

ARE YOU GOING TO PAY THIS BILL?

UH-AHEM!... UH—COUGH! COUGH!

SLAM!

I'VE GOT TO GIVE THE KIDS THE SLIP TILL THEY COOL OFF! WHAT'LL I DO? WHAT'LL I DO?... AH! I KNOW!

I'LL PAY THAT BILL WHEN I GET GOOD AND READY, BUT NOBODY'S GOING TO **FORCE** ME TO DO IT! THIS IS A FREE COUNTRY!

LINCA' DONALD'S GOIN' TO BE STUBBORN ABOUT PAYING!

WE'LL HAVE TO USE **FORCE!** AT ONE PERCENT COMMISSION WE CAN'T WASTE TIME!

PSST! SOMEBODY IS COMING OUT THE FRONT DOOR!

GOOD AWFTERNOON, MISTER DUCK! I WILL DELIVER YOUR MESSAGE TO THE BOLONIAN AMBAWSADOR!

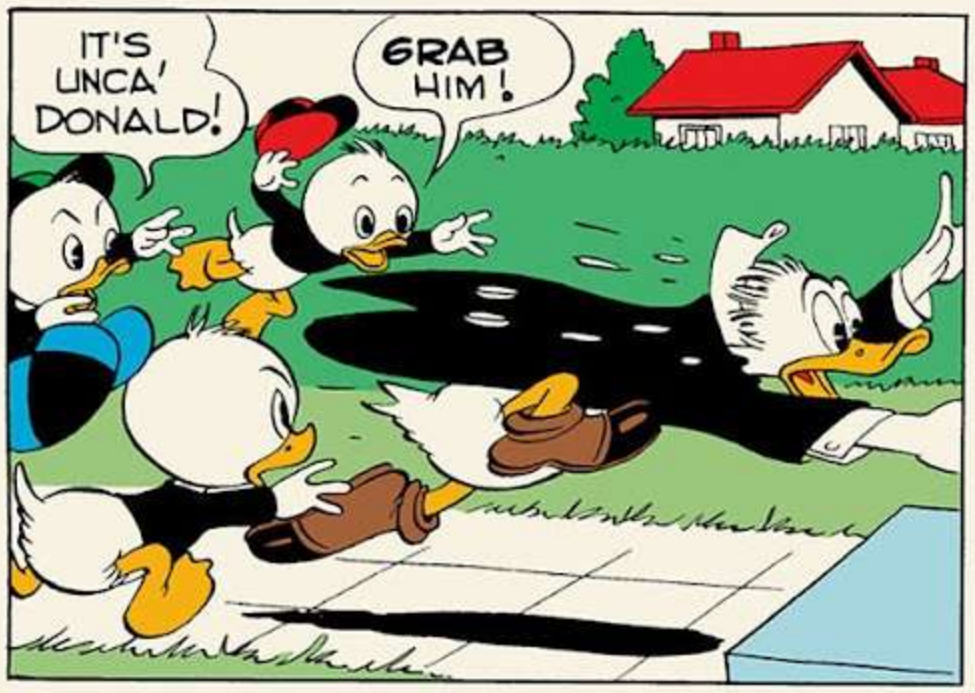
THAT GUY IS **TOO ROUND** TO BE ON THE SQUARE!

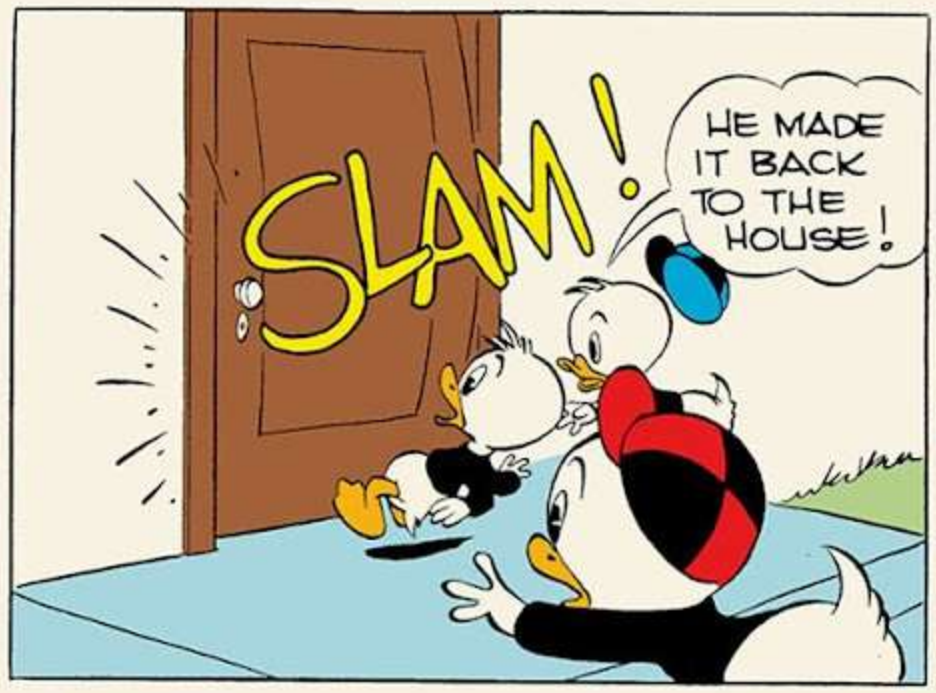
I'D KNOW THAT WADDLE ANYWHERE!

THIS NICE SHARP **DART** WILL SHOW WHETHER THAT WAISTLINE IS **REAL**!

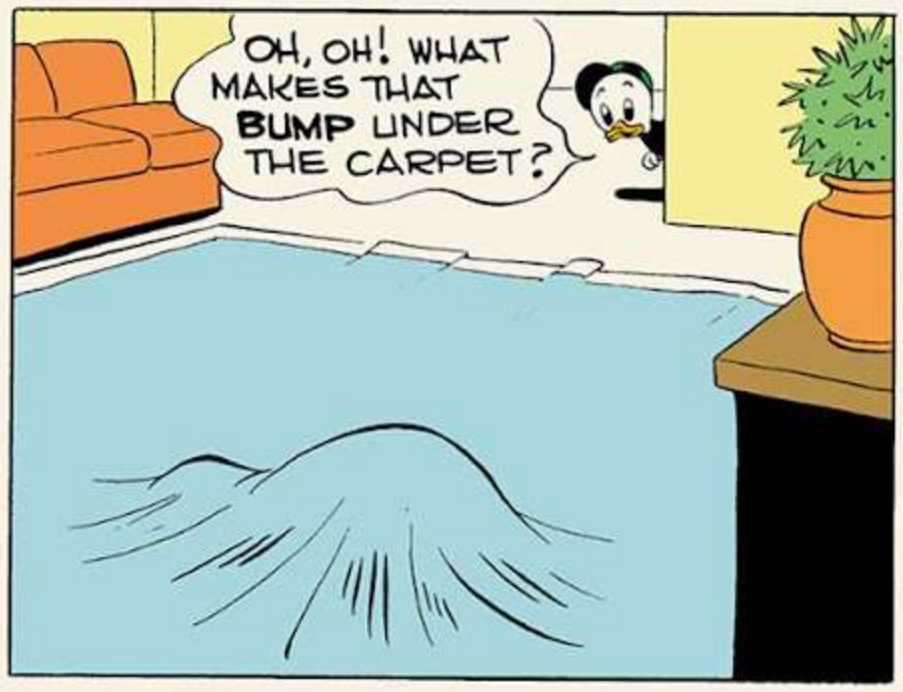
FOOP!

BANG


IT'S UNCA' DONALD!
GRAB HIM!


SLAM!
HE MADE IT BACK TO THE HOUSE!

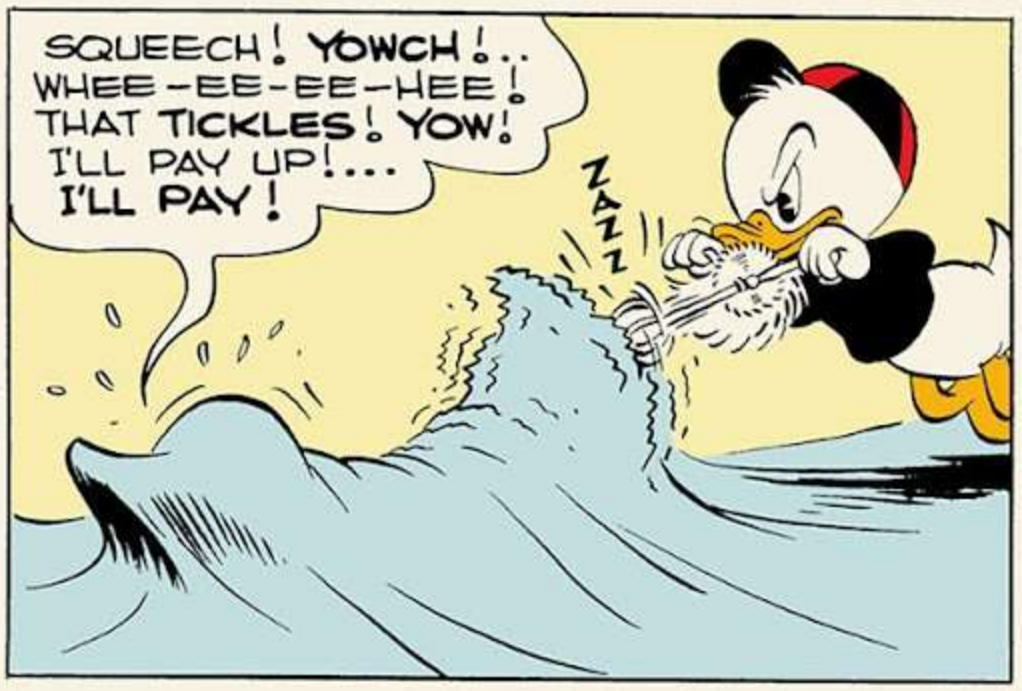
GUARD THE DOORS WHILE I CLIMB INTO THE HOUSE AND SEE WHERE HE HIDES!

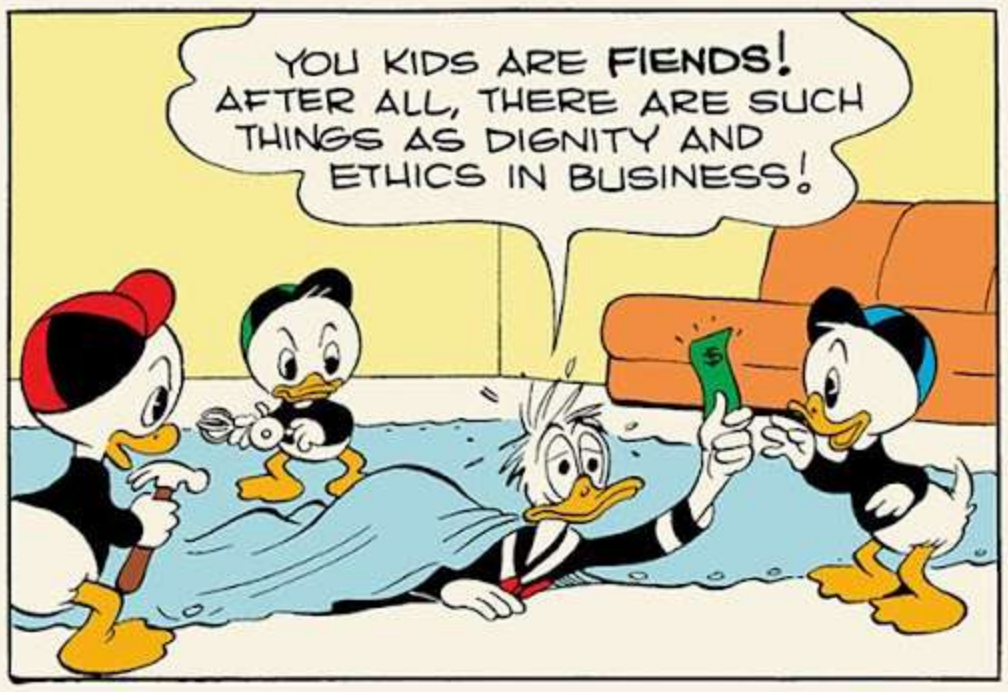

OH, OH! WHAT MAKES THAT BUMP UNDER THE CARPET?

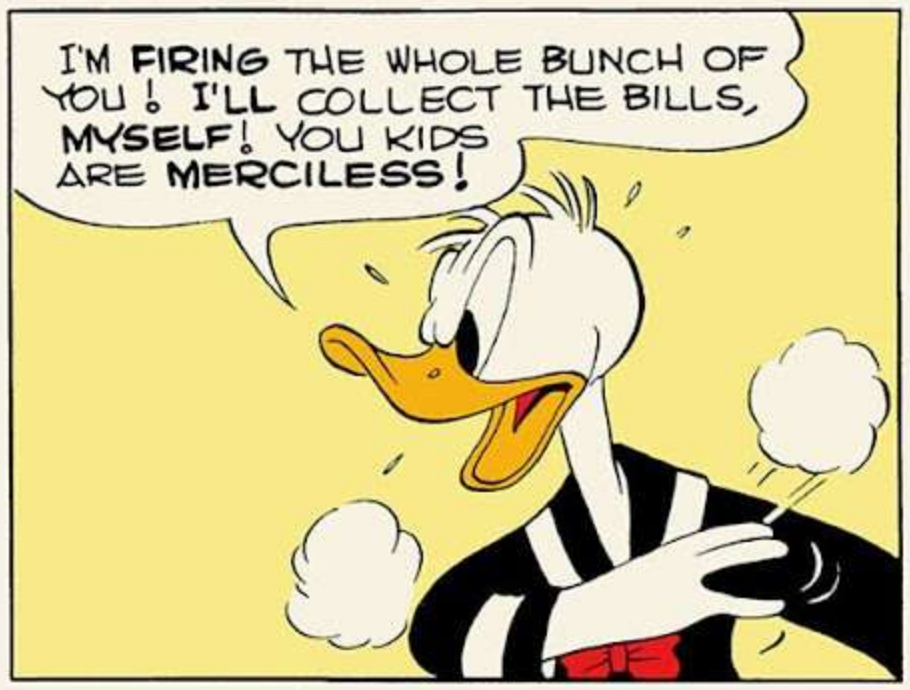
COME IN, KIDS! I'VE GOT UNCA' DONALD TRAPPED!

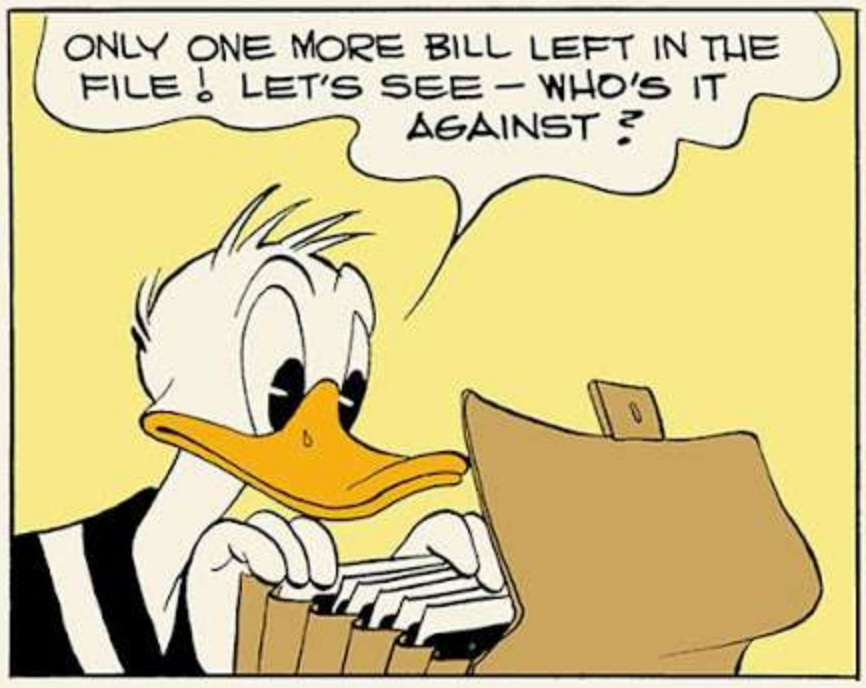
COME ACROSS, UNCA' DONALD!
STOP STALLING AROUND!
PAY UP YOUR BILL!

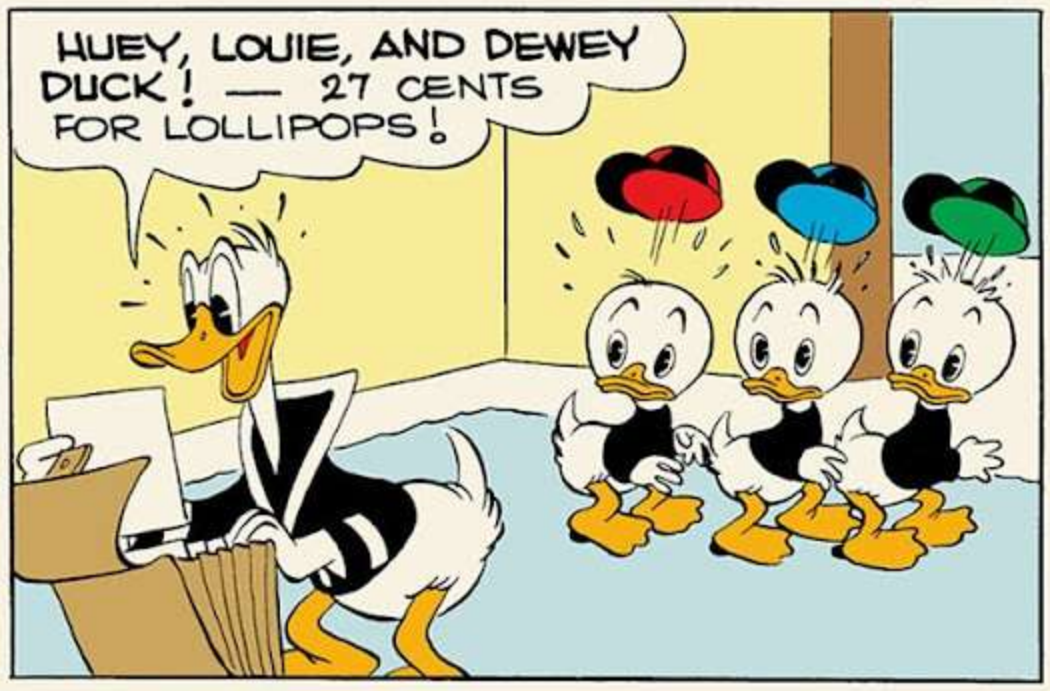
GO TO BLAZES!
BRING THE EGG BEATER, LOUIE!

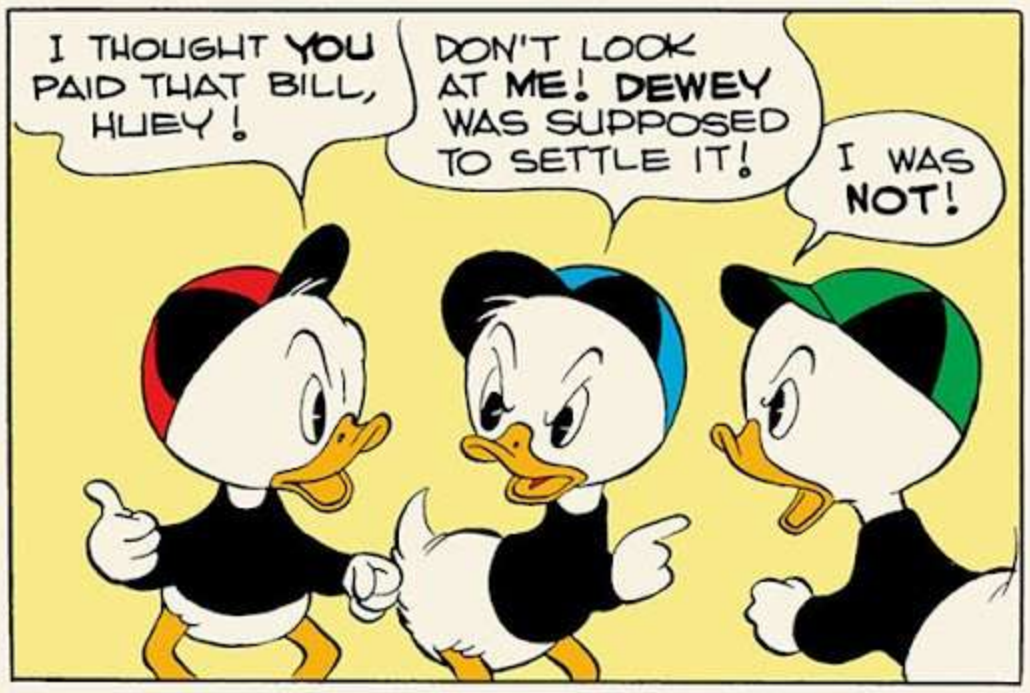

SQUEECH! YOWCH!.. WHEE-EE-EE-HEE! THAT TICKLES! YOW! I'LL PAY UP!... I'LL PAY!
ZAZZ

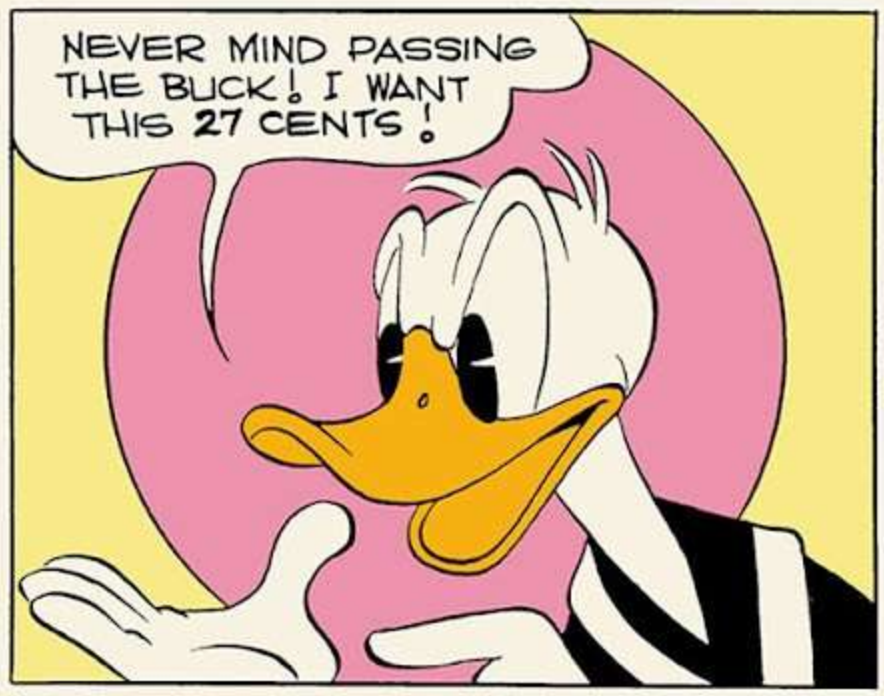

YOU KIDS ARE FIENDS! AFTER ALL, THERE ARE SUCH THINGS AS DIGNITY AND ETHICS IN BUSINESS!

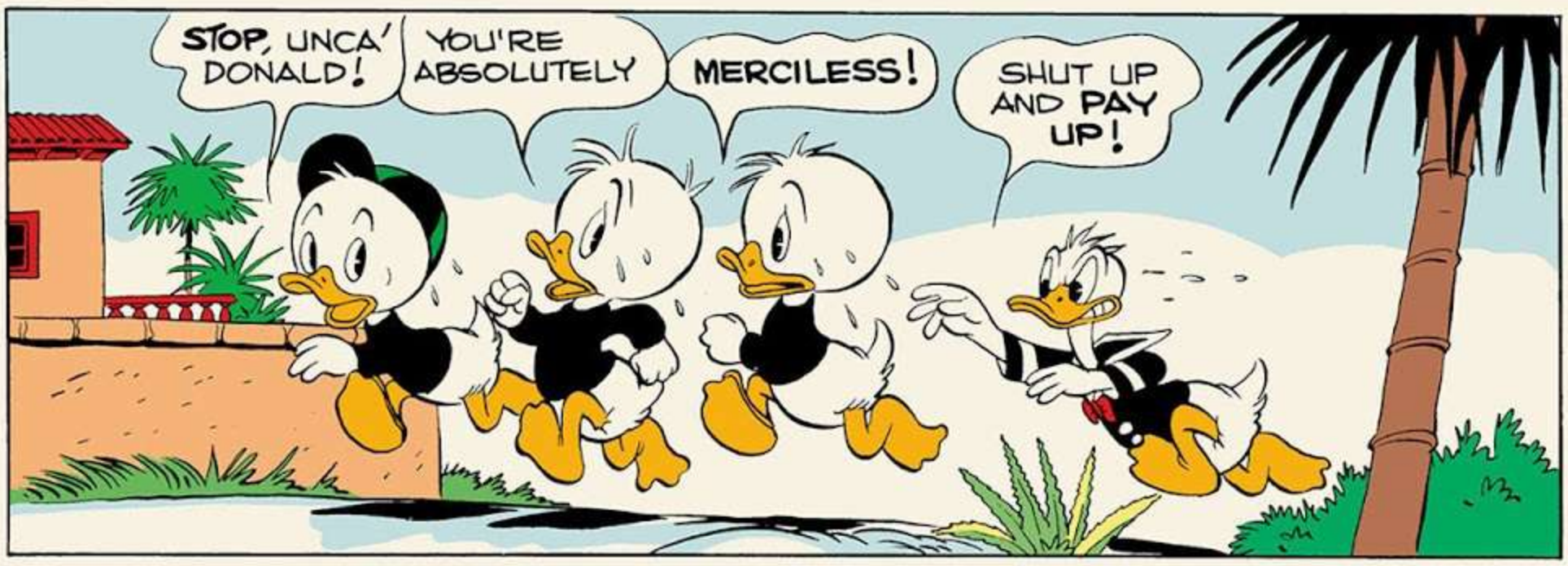

I'M FIRING THE WHOLE BUNCH OF YOU! I'LL COLLECT THE BILLS, MYSELF! YOU KIDS ARE MERCILESS!


ONLY ONE MORE BILL LEFT IN THE FILE! LET'S SEE — WHO'S IT AGAINST?


HUEY, LOUIE, AND DEWEY DUCK! — 27 CENTS FOR LOLLIPOPS!


I THOUGHT YOU PAID THAT BILL, HUEY!
DON'T LOOK AT ME! DEWEY WAS SUPPOSED TO SETTLE IT!
I WAS NOT!


NEVER MIND PASSING THE BUCK! I WANT THIS 27 CENTS!


STOP, UNCA' DONALD!
YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY
MERCILESS!
SHUT UP AND PAY UP!